

**TO: Legislative Consumer Committee**  
**FROM: Bob Nelson**  
**DATE: December 16, 2013**  
**RE: Legislative Consumer Committee Duties**

Following is a description of the statutes concerning the Legislative Consumer Committee and its function.

The Consumer Counsel itself is an office established in the Montana Constitution, Art. XIII, Sec. 2. This section requires the Legislature to provide for the office and its funding through a tax on regulated companies. The role of the Consumer Counsel is set forth in §§ 69-2-201 through 217, MCA.

§§ 5-15-101 through 105 establish the Legislative Consumer Committee. These provisions are brief and relate to the manner of appointment to the committee, term of office and election of officers.

Further functions of the Committee are touched on in §§ 69-1-211, 212 and 221. 212 simply notes the compensation to which Committee members are entitled. 211 requires quarterly meetings of the Committee to advise and consult with the Consumer Counsel. 221 allows the Consumer Counsel to appoint employees and consultants, with approval of the Committee.

Please let me know if you have any questions about these provisions.